Joint ventures by the Railways

3441. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move to initiate joint ventures by the Railway with private parties;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed joint ventures;

(c) whether the railways have taken up works, like producing power from private parties;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount sanctioned for this purpose; and

(e) whether the World Bank conditions are insisting for privatisation of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Joint Venture Company named Pipavav Rail Corporation Limited (PRCL) has been formed with 50:50 equity participation between Ministry of Railways and Gujarat Pipavav Port Limited in the private sector to execute Gauge Conversion of Surendranagar — Rajula city MG line and a new line extension from Rajula city to Pipavav port for providing rail connectivity to the port.

A proposal is under consideration for execution of Gandhidham —Palanpur Gauge Conversion project through joint venture participation with Government of Gujarat, Kandla Port Trust and Gujarat Adani Port Limited.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

Rakesh Mohan Committee of the Railways

3442. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Rakesh Mohan Committee submitted its report to Government;

(b) the major recommendations made by the Committee;